

Message Text

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51

ORIGIN CU-04

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: LECTURER EXCHANGE

REF: MOSCOW 13854, STATE 243118

1. DEPT IS CONCERNED ABOUT MHE'S LACK OF COMMITMENT TO LECTURER EXCHANGE AS EVIDENCED BY FAILURE TO MEET DUE DATES AND DUE DATE EXTENSIONS. DEPT HAD EXPECTED THAT MHE WOULD AT LEAST PERFORM UP TO LAST YEAR'S LEVEL WHEN SOVIET UNIVERSITY OPENINGS HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY THIS TIME. IN FAILING TO PRESENT LIST BEFORE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, MHE HAS IN EFFECT MISSED OLD DUE DATE OF DECEMBER 1 BY AT LEAST ONE MONTH. ACCORDING TO REFTEL A, MHE HAD INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO OBSERVE DECEMBER 1 DUE DATE. IF OBSERVATION OF DEADLINES IN AGREEMENT PRESENTS REAL HARDSHIP FOR SOVIET SIDE, THIS SHOULD HAVE BEEN BROUGHT UP AT TIME OF AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS. (SOVIETS DID NOT EXPRESS DIFFICULTY IN MEETING DUE DATES AND EVEN AGREED TO EARLIER DUE DATES FOR 1974/76 PROGRAM).

2. DEPT HAS INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT ONLY PARTIAL LIST OF OPENINGS (REFTEL B.) BUT DEPT MUST HAVE LIST OF SOME OPENINGS IN ORDER TO RETAIN INTEREST OF U.S. UNIVER-

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SITIES. DUE TO SOVIET FAILURE TO MEET DEADLINES, SOME WELL-

QUALIFIED US PROFESSORS, INCLUDING ONE WHO CAN LECTURE IN RUSSIAN, HAVE ALREADY OPTED FOR OTHER ASSIGNMENTS.

3. SINCE MEETING WITH SOFINSKIY WAS KEY TO GETTING ACTION ON SOVIET NOMINATIONS FOR US UNIVERSITIES LAST SPRING, DEPT STRONGLY REQUESTS PAO AND CAO TO MEET WITH SOFINSKIY OR YELYUTIN ASAP. IF MEETING WITH HIGH LEVEL MHE OFFICIALS DOES NOT GET RESULTS, EMB IS REQUESTED TO CONVEY US DISSATISFACTION WITH WORKINGS OF LECTURER EXCHANGE TO MFA AND ASK MFA TO INTERCEDE WITH MHE TO STIMULATE ACTION. YOU MAY ALSO WISH EXPLORE WITH MFA POSSIBILITY OF PLACING RESPONSIBILITY FOR US-USSR LECTURER EXCHANGE UNDER ANOTHER SOVIET INSTITUTION, PERHAPS ACADEMY. RUSH

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